Constitution of expert committee for providing relief to the people of Dharwar District

420. Sri SIDDAIAH KASHIMATH (Shirahatti).—

Will the Minister for Finance, Planning and Youth Welfare be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether there is any scheme to provide permanent relief to the people in Dharwar District which is suffering from frequent droughts;

(*b*) if so, the nature of the scheme;

(*c*) if not, whether the Government intend to constitute an expert committee consisting of both officials and non-officials to suggest suitable measures in this behalf?

Sri RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE (Minister for Finance, Planning and Youth Welfare).—

(*a*) Three schemes have been prepared on different occasions for Rs. 280 crores, Rs. 40 crores and Rs. 14 crores, respectively, for providing permanent relief to chronically drought affected areas in the State. The Rupees 280 crores scheme is a comprehensive long range scheme. It includes among other areas of the State in 9 taluks of Dharwar district *viz.*, Ron, Navalgund, Nargund, Gadag, Mundargi, Shirhatti, Hubli, Ranebennur and Haveri covering an area of 3,240 sq. miles.

(*b*) The comprehensive scheme envisages outlay on soil conservation, afforestation, contour bunding, tractor and bulldozer service, Irrigation wells, pumpsets, lift Irrigation, bore wells, tanks, poultry, piggery, cattle development, dairy farming, fisheries, bee-keeping, horticulture, agro-industries and marketing.

(*c*) Does not arise in view of above.

Khandasari Sugar Factories working in Bidar District

453. Sri S. CHANDRAKANTH (Bidar).—

Will the Minister for Industries, Information and Publicity be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the number of Khandasari Sugar Factories working at Bidar proper and in Bidar District;

(*b*) whether the Government of India or the State Government has fixed any price for the purchase of Sugarcane from the Sugarcane growers;

(c) whether the Deputy Commissioner, Bidar has received any written or oral representation from the agriculturist and local leaders regarding the harassment of these Khandasari sugar factory owners, on the agriculturists, like under weighing, not making payment at agreed price, and denial of buying the sugarcane after it is brought to the factory premises, etc.

Sri M. RAJASEKHARA MURTHY (Minister for Industries, Information and Publicity).—

(a) (i) Bidar proper	...	4
(ii) Bidar District	...	3
Total	...	7

(b) No.

(c) Some oral representations were made to the Deputy Commissioner, Bidar, about the unfair competition from the sugarcane growers of the neighbouring Andhra Pradesh (Zahirabad Taluk) and also about the payment of highly unremunerative prices to the sugarcane cultivators of the Bidar District.

Establishment of Agricultural College in Shimoga

501. Sri A. R. BADRINARAYAN (Shimoga).—

Will the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Government have considered Shimoga while selecting a suitable place for the establishment of an Agricultural college ;

(b) the requirements for the establishment of an Agricultural college ;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that Shimoga District can lay claim to satisfy such requirements ?

Sri B. RACHAIAH (Minister for Agriculture).—

(a) There is no proposal to start any more Agricultural Colleges in the State.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to clause (a) these do not arise.